Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 02826 141338Z ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 DODE-00 IO-13 ACDA-07 L-03 /079 W

-----141341Z 062743 /50

R 141151Z JUN 77 FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4290 INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN AMEMBASSY CAIRO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS AMEMBASSY MOSCOW AMEMBASSY JIDDA AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

CONFIDENTIAL BEIRUT 2826

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR LE UR EG

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

SUBJ: EGYPTIAN-SOVIET RAPPROCHEMENT

- 1. BOTH PRESIDENT SARKIS AND FOREIGN MINISTER BOUTROS IN PAST FEW DAYS HAVE ASKED ME FOR OUR VIEWS ON SOVIET-EGYPTIAN RAPPROCHEMENT. BOUTROS CLARIFIED HIS QUESTION BY SAYING "SOME ARABS" WERE SAYING UNITED STATES HAD TACITLY APPROVED, OR AT LEAST NOT OPPOSED, FAHMY'S TRIP TO MOSCOW. PRESIDENT SARKIS EXPANDED ON THIS TO SAY "ARAB" RATIONALE WAS THAT U.S. FELT SUCCESSFUL GENEVA CONFERENCE NOT POSSIBLE UNLESS THERE SOME IMPROVEMENT IN SOVIET-EGYPTIAN RELATIONS. (SARKIS HAD RECEIVED SAUDI AMBASSADOR EARLIER SAME MORNING AND I SUSPECT LATTER MAY HAVE BEEN SOURCE SARKIS'S RATIONALE.)
- 2. TO BOTH QUERIES I RESPONDED I HONESTLY DID NOT CONFIDENTIAL

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KNOW WHAT CONVERSATIONS IF ANY WE HAD HAD WITH EGYPTIANS ON SUBJECT BUT DOUBTED EGYPTIANS HAD ASKED OUR APPROVAL. I REPORT THE ABOVE AS OF POSSIBLE INTEREST AND WOULD APPRECIATE ANY ELUCIDATION DEPT OR CAIRO MIGHT CARE TO GIVE US. PARKER

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Message Attributes

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